PTO/SB/30 (08-00)
Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

FEB 05 2004
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995. See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	09/297,737
Filing Date	November 7, 1997
Examiner Name	Walter Dean Griffin
First Named Inventor	Juliette QUARTARATO
Group Art Unit	1764
Attorney Docket Number	PET-1761

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: *37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for* the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Interim Rule, 65 *Fed. Reg.* 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 *Off. Gaz. Pat. Office* 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

a. ☒ Previously submitted
 i. ☒ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on January 30, 2004 (Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
 ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
 iii. ☐ Other _____

b. Enclosed
 i. ☐ Amendment/Reply
 ii ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
 iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
 iv. ☐ Other _____

2. Miscellaneous

a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) **required**)

b. ☐ Other _____

3. Fees — The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a. ☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No._____
 i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) $770.00
 ii. ☒ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17) $110.00
 iii. ☐ Other _____

b. ☒ Check in the amount of $ $880.00 enclosed

c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print /Type)	Csaba Henter	*Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)*	50,908
Signature		*Date*	

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:

Name (Print /Type)			
Signature		*Date*	

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231.

02/06/2004 HVUONG1 00000072 09297737

01 FC:1801 770.00 OP